

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis 813-876-8830
Retired Priest in Residence: Rev. Fr. Stratton Dorozenski 813-876-8830
Retired Priest in Residence: Rev. Fr. John Stefero 813-876-8830
Pastoral Assistant: Vasili Panagopoulos 414-254-5134
Bookkeeper: Debbie Bowe 813-876-8830

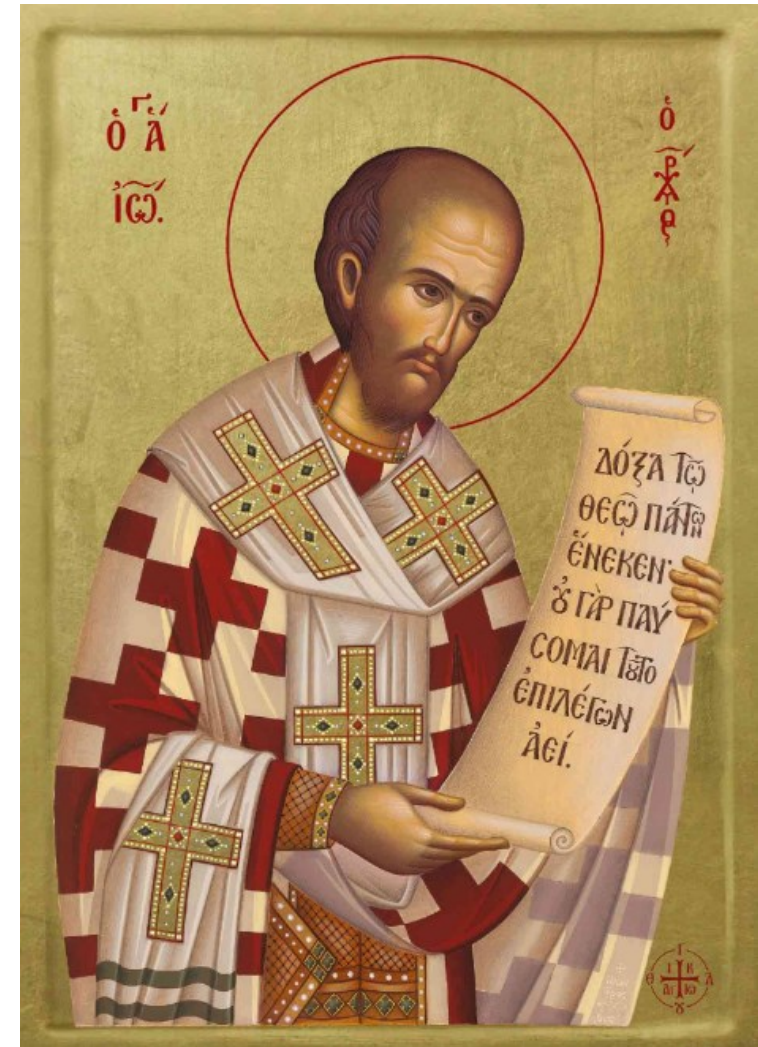
Parish Council:
 John Zelatis, President 813-727-2271
 Euripides Panos, Vice President 813-352-3972
 Marilyn Sandborn, Secretary 813-855-8678
 Gary Ward, Treasurer 813-846-3898
 Jim Armstrong 954-295-6665
 Joanne Dalaklis 813-385-8205
 Amin Hanhan 813-846-2957
 Nick Katzaras 863-581-2430
 Suzanne Pileggi 813-244-5855
 Marcelle Triantafilou 612-396-5026
 Mike Xenick 813-340-8737

12 Disciples Mathew Balasis 727-421-7376
AHEPA: Thomas Sakaris, President 201-819-2319
Altar Angels: Kalliope Chagaris 813-789-4134
Bookstore: Pres. Denise Stefero 678-464-4833
Choir: Tara Swartzbaugh, Director 813-313-0439
 Ruth Losovitz, Organist 727-688-2782

College Ministry: Vasili Panagopoulos 414-254-5134
Community Outreach: Greg Melton 813-967-2074
Dance Groups: H XAPA MΑΣ, Alexandra De Maio 813-340-9668
 Bessie Palios, 813-523-0347
 Maraquet Edquid 813-422-8963
 ΠΑΡΕΑ, Marina Choundas 813-877-6136
 ΠΑΝΗΓΥΡΙ, Alexandra De Maio 813-340-9668
 Elena Ketchum 813-229-0144

Daughters of Penelope: Gary Ward 813-846-3898
Finance Committee: Sheila Vukmer 412-719-1005
Food Pantry Donna Hambos 813-843-8412
GriefShare: Michael & Bessie Palios 813-523-0346
GOYA: George & Zackie Ameres 813-245-3813
Hope/Joy: Maraquet Edquid 813-422-8963
Joy Tweens Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis 813-876-8830
Men's Fellowship: Mary Ann Konstas 813-215-9862
MOMS: Marcelle Triantafilou 612-396-5026
Nursing Ministry: Peggy Bradshaw 727-244-1374
Oratorical Festival: Karina Findlay 813-476-9632
Photography Ministry: Melissa Krinos 813-716-9975
Philoptochos: Chris Kyros 757-672-1920
Stewardship: George Mitseas 813-748-1220
 Vickie Peckham 813-758-3102

Sunday School: Pete Trakas 813-505-2193
Ushers Fr. John Stefero 813-876-8830
Veterans/1st Responders Maria Xenick 813-765-3587
Welcoming Ministry: Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis 813-876-8830
Young Adults Bill Manikas 813-716-8185
Young at Heart: Dora Morgan 813-613-3738
Youth Protection: Suzanne Pileggi 813-244-5855



St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church

November 13, 2022

Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis (Proistamenos)
Fr. Stratton Dorozenski (Retired Priest In Residence)
Fr. John Stefero (Retired Priest In Residence)

(Icon of St. John Chrysostom - November 13)

VISION:

Love God, Love your neighbor and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ as an Orthodox Christian community.

MISSION:

The mission of St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church is to welcome and serve people with love, truth, joy and peace, and to create an environment that encourages all to seek salvation through Orthodox Christianity.

CORE VALUES:

Love, Worship, Community, Learning, Service

SYNAXARION:

St. John Chrysostom; St. Anthusa, Mother of St. John Chrysostom; Holy Monk and New Martyr Damaskinos of Constantinople

Resurrectional Apolytikion (PL. First Mode)

Co-eternal with the Father and Spirit is the Word Who of a Virgin was begotten for our salvation we the faithful both praise and worship Him. For in the flesh did He consent to ascend unto the cross and death did He endure and He raised unto life the dead by His all Glorious Resurrection.

Apolytikion for St. John Chrysostom (PL. Fourth Mode)

The grace of your mouth which has shone like a beacon, has illumined the universe; it stored up in the world treasures of the absence of avarice; it showed to us the height of humility. Therefore, instructing by your words, O Father John Chrysostom, intercede with the Word, Christ our God, that our souls may be saved.

Apolytikion of St. John the Baptist:

The memory of the just is observed with hymns of praise; for you O Forerunner the witness of the Lord is sufficient. You have proved to be truly more venerable than the prophets. Since you were granted to baptize in the river, the One Whom they proclaimed. Therefore, you strove for truth, proclaiming with joy the Good News, even to those in Hades: that God was manifested in the flesh, and takes away the sins of the world, and grants to us His great mercy.

Kontakion (Fourth Mode)

The very purest abode of the Savior, and the most priceless bridal chamber and Virgin, the most sacred treasure of the glory of God, today is led inside of the house of the Lord, bringing in the grace with her of the Holy Spirit. It is for her God's angels sing in praise: she is truly the heavenly tabernacle.

Welcome to all of our Visitors

"Welcome one another just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God." Romans 15:7 We pray that your worship experience with us today will be inspirational and uplifting. Please introduce yourself to an usher or a member of the Welcoming Ministry and pick-up a "welcome packet" as you exit the church. We are happy that you are with us today!

Holy Communion

is offered only to Orthodox Christians who are in good canonical standing with the church and who have prepared through prayer and fasting. Everyone is invited to receive the Antidoron (Blessed Bread) at the end of the Divine Liturgy.

Order for Holy Communion—With Sunday School back in session the order for Holy Communion will be as follows:

1. Choir
2. Altar boys
3. Sunday school teachers (who will line up in middle aisle before Communion)
4. Sunday school students (who will line up in the middle aisle before Communion behind the teachers)
5. Then the rest of the congregation

Upcoming Services & Events

Sunday, November 13	St. John Chrysostom Orthros 8:45 a.m. Nativity Fast Kick Off Day GOYA	Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.
Monday, November 14	St. Philip Orthros 9:00 a.m. Bible Study	Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, November 15	START OF NATIVITY FAST Women's Bible Study Holy Unction	10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, November 16	St. Matthew Orthros 9:00 a.m.	Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
Thursday, November 17	Young Adult Group	6:30 p.m.
Friday, November 18	JOY Tweens Movie Night	6:30 p.m.
Sunday, November 20	Orthros 8:45 a.m. Men's Group	Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.
Monday, November 21	Entrance of the Virgin Mary into the Temple Orthros 9:00 a.m. Bible Study	Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.

Education at St. John

Monday Night Bible Study

Leader: Fr. John
Day: Monday 6:30 p.m.

Women's Bible Study

Leader: Fr. Stavros
Day: Tuesday 10:00 a.m.

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH

If you are new to the Tampa Bay area or just visiting, we would love to get to know you better.

PLEASE TEXT THE WORD

"WELCOME" TO 813-790-5950

FOLLOW THE PROMPTS TO GIVE US
YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION AND FROM THERE
YOU WILL BE DIRECTED TO OUR ONLINE CONNECTION CARD

DO NOT NEGLECT TO SHOW *hospitality* TO STRANGERS.
FOR THEREBY SOME HAVE ENTERTAINED *angels unaware.*
HEBREWS 13:2

MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES

College Student Monthly Luncheon—We invite all college students for lunch after Liturgy on Sunday, November 13. We will have a lunch/discussion in the library. There is no cost.

Recognition of Veterans on Sunday, November 13— On November 13th we will salute all veterans of our parish with a special flag presentation. Join us to honor all those who are and who have served our great nation!

GOYA—Our November GOYA Meeting will be Sunday, November 13, from 5:00-7:30 p.m. in the Kourmolis Center. Dinner, as always, will be provided.

St. John’s Bookstore -Items for Advent and the Season of Thanksgiving

Beginning today, our bookstore will offer a special selection of items to add to your observance of Advent and celebration of Thanksgiving. Also, mark your calendars for Sunday, November 27th for the opening of our Christmas shop. We receive new items regularly so stop in often.



Young Adult Group Rescheduled for this week - Thursday, November 17

We invite the young adults of our parish to an evening discussion with Fr. Stavros on Thursday, November 17 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the Kourmolis Center. We are going to reinvigorate our young adult program with a twice-a-month discussion/Bible study. The first meeting will be on Thursday, November 17, and we will set the schedule from there. Anyone interested, please contact the church office at office@stjohntpa.org and we will add you to our group text. This is open for anyone ages 18-40, including non-Orthodox and anyone from neighboring parishes.

Photo Ministry - Love to take photos? Come join our Photo Ministry!

It’s a fun and creative way to serve and to show the community all of the beautiful services and wonderful activities we have here at St. John. All abilities are welcome! Please call or text at Karina Findlay at (813) 476-9632.

Community Outreach - Metropolitan Ministries Holiday Volunteering

Below, find the dates, times, address, and sign up website for St John Greek Orthodox Church volunteers. Anyone from our parish can volunteer by registering on the Metropolitan Ministries website below. First come, first served as the sign up slots fill up fast and our slots will be given to other people if we do not sign up.

Thanksgiving Holiday - November 22	2:00 - 5:30 PM
Christmas Holiday - December 22	3:00 - 6:30 PM



Philoptochos - Collecting donations for our troops through the end of November

We will be collecting items and sending them to our troops that need our thoughts and prayers. We will provide cards in the hall, please feel free to write them a note.

- Food items** such as: beef jerky, canned tuna/chicken, trail mix, granola bars, fruit snacks
Hygiene items such as travel size body wash and shampoo, deodorant, lip balm, wet wipes
Miscellaneous items such as: pens, pencils, travel games, cards, pads of paper, earbuds, footballs
Prohibited items such as: pork, tobacco, alcohol, bars of soap, aerosol sprays, nail polish, perfume

JOY Tweens

On Friday, November 18 our JOY Tweens will be meeting at 6:30 p.m. for a Nativity movie night. This is for all children in between 4th-6th grade. Dinner and snacks will be provided, as usual.

3-Day Vigil Candles

In order to preserve our icons and prevent the emission of soot from going up and harming them, we have new 3-Day vigil candles. The ushers will place them in the windowsills along the isles in front of the icon of your choice. At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, the candles will be blown out, and you can bring it home to relight and use. This practice of placing candles in front of the saints is quite ancient, and one that is still practiced throughout the Orthodox world. Use this prayerful and devout practice here at St. John’s to ask for the intercessions of a saint of your choice.

Readings for the Sunday, November 13

Prokeimenon: My mouth shall speak wisdom. Hear this, all you nations.

The Epistle Reading according to Paul’s Letter to the Hebrews (7:26-28; 8:1-2)

Brethren, it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, unstained, separated from sinners, exalted above the heavens. He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people; he did this once for all when he offered up himself. Indeed, the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect for ever. Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, a minister in the sanctuary and the true tent which is set up not by man but by the Lord.

Gospel Reading according to the St. Luke (10:25-37)

At that time, a lawyer stood up to put Jesus to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read?" And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have answered right; do this, and you will live." But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion, and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed mercy on him." And Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Prayer List: Lord Jesus Christ, Physician of our Souls and Bodies, visit and heal your servants: Anna, Stavroula, George, Pam, and Liz; Christopher Labatos; Sylvia Michos; Eva Coppalla; Christopher; Christopher; Peter Nenos; Tony Ekonomou; Patrick Carroll; Ourania Tziotis, Irina, Marina, Yuri, and Christophoros; Ashley Snyder; Evangelos & Caroline Critkas; Constantinos & Kalotina Klimis; Christine Alex, June, Lillian Thomas; Scotty; Desi Serriera; Ashley Kladakis; Dora Kallas, Kathy & Andrew Bouzinekis; Anastasia; Virginia Georgiou, Toula Tsaros, Nellie Pringle, Yolanda Webb, Angela Bougas, Tony Ekonomou, Ron, Jason Vickers, Rex Garrison, Tina Chakonas, Ann Demas, Christina Noel Kouzes Houck, Evangeline Xeroteris, Ashley Henderson, Natalie Henderson, Chris, Debbie, James, Avery, Lily, Jacob, Jesse, Ann, Rosario, Antonia Caffentzis, Alissa, John, Angela, Joey, Christine Scourtes, Steven, Phyllis, John Zelatis, Reagan, Peter Zaharis, Alexandra Ferrarolis, Leon & Despina Botham, Cindy Xenick, Mary Ellen Evdemon, Marie Sofia Panagopoulos, Maria Hursey, Chris Vamvakias, John Myer, Mike Trimis, Alice Stoccardo, John Alexander, Michael Romero, George Hambos, Dean Kondilis and Family, Bill and Nancy Manikas, Patricia Costello, Ekaterina & Anna Shushaalykova, Dora Koudouna, Debbie Phelps, Mary Voykin, David Voykin, Denise Badrane, Don Payne, Vasili, Moriah, Andoni, and all victims of war, terrorism, crime, natural disaster, and all of whom we are unaware.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS & UPDATE

November 13

Topic: Communion-Liturgy-Worship
Youth Sunday

November 20

Topic: Charity/Thanksgiving

Liturgical Notes

Sunday, November 13 - St. John Chrysostom St. John Chrysostom lived in the 4th Century. He was a Bishop of the Church and is recognized as one of the Three Hierarchs (together with St. Basil the Great and St. Gregory the Theologian). He received the title “Chrysostomos,” meaning “the Golden Mouth,” for his great ability to speak. St. John Chrysostom authored the Divine Liturgy that we celebrate on most Sundays. Therefore, we offer the Divine Liturgy on this day in honor of St. John Chrysostom.

Monday, November 14 –St. Philip the Apostle Each of the Twelve Disciples has their own feastday. They are celebrated collectively on June 30. St. Philip is commemorated on November 14.

Tuesday, November 15- Holy Unction for the beginning of Advent at 6:00 p.m. The forty-day period of Advent begins on November 15. It is a period of fasting and reflective preparation. In America, Advent is marked by a period of shopping, decorating and parties, none of which really help us prepare spiritually to celebrate the great feast of the Nativity. As we have done in past years, we will hold a Holy Unction Service as we begin the period of Advent—it will be on Tuesday, November 15, at 6:00 p.m. Please bring your Holy Week book as the service will follow the service of Holy Wednesday evening.

Wednesday, November 16 –St. Matthew the Apostle and Evangelist Saint Matthew was one of the 12 Disciples and one of four Evangelists, the authors of the Gospels. St. Matthew did not spend his early life as a holy man. Rather, he was a dishonest tax collector. Once he encountered Christ, his life changed. He became a faithful follower. St. Matthew is one of many examples of prominent saints who turned their life around after an inauspicious beginning. He is a role model for any of us to do the same.

Fifty-Two Verses in Fifty-Two Weeks: The Bible Project
November 13-19

*I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.
John 10:11*

On Sunday, November 13, we will read the Gospel of the Good Samaritan, a beautiful passage about the importance of loving God and loving our neighbor. November 13 is also the feast of St. John Chrysostom, and when the day does not fall on a Sunday, we read a Gospel passage about Christ being the good shepherd. We not only love Christ because it is a commandment to love God along with our neighbor. We love Christ because we are supposed to see Him as our shepherd, which means that we are His sheep. Sheep are not the smartest of animals. They have to rely on the shepherd to lead them to water sources and to protect them from wolves. Sheep who follow the shepherd have the best chance to live long and safe lives. Sheep who wander from the flock risk injury. Shepherds, on the other hand, were not the upward climbers of society either. They were nomadic. Some were loyal to the sheep and some would run at the first sign of a wolf. Jesus is the good shepherd, the One who lays down His life for the sheep. We sheep are protected by Him. All we need to do is stick by Him until we get to the safety of the sheep pen, which is heaven. Jesus spoke in images that the agrarian society of the day would understand—sheep, wolves, pens and gates. He talked about the narrow gate, and how the sheep needed to get through the narrow gate in order to be safe in the pen. The gate was narrow enough to be protected by one shepherd. Sheep had to get in a straight line in order to enter into the gate. Jesus was the one who would guard the gate, laying down His life in it to protect the flock. As sheep of the flock, we need to trust our good shepherd. And get to the narrow gate beyond which we can rest safe and secure, forever.

Hope/Joy Fall Food Drive

Sun, Nov 13th- Sun, Dec 11th.

"HOPE starts with a MEAL. HOPE starts with YOU!"

Metropolitan Ministries’ Holiday Tent helps 50,000+ families in need for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Let’s help them meet this year’s goal of 1,763,000 pounds of food.

Please join St. John’s Hope & Joy children’s ministry in providing a meal to families in need through Metropolitan Ministries. Make this your family project and help us put together Boxes of Hope filled with the items needed for a Christmas holiday dinner. There are many ways you can help provide a Box of Hope:

- Shop for any of the items below and bring to church Sun, Nov 13th- Sun, Dec 11th.
- Donate \$25 or more (cash/ check/ gift card) for a Box of Hope- Checks payable to Metropolitan Ministries

BOX OF HOPE contains:

• Gift certificate for a turkey or ham	• 2 cans of black beans
• 1 box of cereal (hot or cold)	• 2 cans of cranberry sauce
• 2 cans of fruit	• 1 bag of dried beans
• 1 jar of peanut butter	• 1 box or bag of rice
• 2 cans of vegetables	• 1 can or packet of gravy
• 2 cans of yams	• 1 box dessert mix
• 1 bag or box of stuffing	• 1 package cookies or pastries
• 1 box of potatoes	• 1 family box of Jell-O/Pudding

Only non-perishable food donations please. Call Zackie Ameres at 813-245-3813 or email at zackiec@yahoo.com with any questions. Thank you!

"He who is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and He will reward him for what he has done." Proverbs 19:17



Altar Boy Schedule

November 13
(St. Mark)

Michael Snyder
Zachary Carter
Dorian Setzer-Torres
Prometheus Koutouzi
Leo Lenardos
Niko Kyrus
Josh Roby

Captains

John Palios
Genaro Scarfogliero
Nicholas Akrotirianakis
Nicholas Carter
James Magos
Demetri Passalaris
George Xenick
Nicholas Magos
PJ Zelatis

November 20
(St. Luke)

Teddy Kafentaris
Andrew Thatcher
Kris Christopher
Vasilios Panos
Jonah Blankenbaker
Lucas Elly
Liam Elly